

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 05321 041525Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 /057 W

----- 077014

R 041429Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1171

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJ: CDS ADMITTED TO EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION,
REVEALS PLANS TO HOLD PARTY CONGRESS THIS MONTH

REF: LISBON A-133

SUMMARY: IN ADDITION TO ANNOUNCING ACCEPTANCE INTO CHRISTIAN
DEMOCRATIC UNION, AT RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE CDS LEADERS REVEALED
THEIR PLANS TO HOLD PARTY CONGRESS, FIRST APPEARAHCE CDS JOURNAL,
AND PLANS TO PRODUCE DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY'S
CONSIDERATION. PLOT BY FAR LEFT AGAINST PPD AND CDS CHARGED
ALSO. END SUMMARY.

1. CONSERVATIVE CDS PARTY HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN LISBON DEC 2
TO ANNOUNCE ACCEPTANCE NOVEMBER 22 INTO EUROPEAN
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION, AND DIRECT ATTENTION TO APPEARANCE
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PAGE 02 LISBON 05321 041525Z

OF FIRST EDITION OF PARTY WEEKLY "DEMOCRACIA 74". DURING

CONFERENCE PARTY LEADER DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL REVEALED PLANS FOR CDS EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS THIS MONTH TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE RECENTLY PUBLISHED PROGRAM (SEE A-133 FOR PROGRAM DETAILS), TO BE FOLLOWED BY ORDINARY CONGRESS IN JANUARY 1975. CDS, SAID DO AMARAL, IS ALSO DRAFTING CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND WILL MAKE PUBLIC SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SOCIO-ECONOMIC MEASURES IT BELIEVES GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE IN NEAR FUTURE.

2. CDS SPOKESMEN ALSO LAMENTED SERIES OF RECENT PHYSICAL ATTACKS ON 3 OF THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS BY UNIDENTIFIED FAR LEFTISTS, AS WELL AS ASSAULTS AGAINST INDIVIDUAL MILITANTS IN SCHOOLS AND AT RALLIES. (IN ONE SUCH ASSAULT AT OLHAO DECEMBER 2 A CDS MILITANT AND FORMER TOWN MAYOR LEFT IN SERIOUS CONDITION AFTER RECEIVING HEAD WOUND IN BRAWL WITH LEFTISTS AT CDS RALLY). CDS SECRETARY GENERAL TOLD PRESS THAT IT HAS INFORMATION OF PLOT BY FAR LEFTISTS TO DESTROY ELECTORAL CAPACITY OF BOTH PPD AND CDS PRIOR TO ELECTIONS AND TO FALSELY "INCRIMINATE" PARTY LEADERS. FAILING IN THIS, ITS OPPONENTS WILL TRY TO KIDNAP CDS AND PPD LEADERS AND HOLD THEM IN PRIVATE JAILS FOR 20-30 DAYS. (ALTHOUGH PRESS DID NOT PRINT NAME OF GROUP WHICH ALLEGEDLY BEHIND PLOT AGAINST THESE TWO PARTIES, CDS LEADERS SAY PRIVATELY THAT LUAR HAS CONCOCTED THIS PLAN). PPD HAS DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF LEFTIST PLOT AGAINST IT, SAYING IT NOT IN SAME IDEOLOGICAL BOAT AS CDS AND IMPLYING THEREBY THAT FAR LEFTISTS HAVE NO REASON TO OPPOSE THEM.

3. COMMENT: CDS IS TAKING NO CHANCES, AND MAKES PUBLIC ANY RUMORS IT PICKS UP REGARDING PLANNED ATTACKS ON IT BY FAR LEFT IN HOPES OF DISCOURAGING POTENTIAL OPPONENTS. PARTY SAYS IT WILL FURNISH POLICE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT ALLEGED PLOT AGAINST IT. EMBASSY SEEKING PROCURE DETAILS. LOCAL PRESS HAS GIVEN RELATIVELY GOOD COVERAGE TO PRESS CONFERENCE, WHICH IS UNUSUAL, AND EVEN MORE UNUSUAL IS TV COVERAGE OF STATEMENT BY DO AMARAL ANNOUNCING CDS ADMISSION TO EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION. IT MAY BE THAT ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT LEADERS ARE REACTING TO ADVERSE COMMENTS BY FOREIGN DELEGATIONS (SUCH AS RECENT VISIT BY GERMANY INVESTOR GROUP) TO OBVIOUS MARXIST IMBALANCE IN PRESS AND LACK OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MODERATES IN MEDIA. AT ANY RATE, DESPITE ITS DIFFICULTIES WITH PRESS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LISBON 05321 041525Z

CDS CLAIMS A HUGE INCREASE IN MEMBERS (10,000-15,000) IN RECENT WEEKS, PERHAPS A SIGN OF POPULAR REACTION TO LEFTIST ADVANCES. SCOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: MEMBER ADMISSIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, PARTY MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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30 JUN 2005

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